

Division of Elections

The Division of Elections is dedicated to ensuring the integrity of the electoral process in New Jersey, and to making certain that voter registration — as well as the actual voting process — is as accessible and inclusive as possible. Under the direct supervision of Attorney General Peter C. Harvey and Chief of Staff Markus Green, the Division assures compliance with the federal National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), and the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), which includes all reporting requirements to the Federal Election Commission and Election Assistance Commission. Additional responsibilities include certification of voting machines, serving as filing officer for all federal and state public elective offices, ensuring compliance with polling place accessibility for the elderly and disabled, regulatory authority for voter registration, political party declarations, absentee voting, election district requirements and polling place accessibility. The Attorney General is New Jersey's Chief Election Official, and serves as chairman of the Board of Canvassers. The Board of Canvassers certifies results for federal and state office elections and public questions. For more information, visit the Division Web site www.njelections.org.

Highlights

❖ **Chronological Elections Guide —**

The Division annually issues its New Jersey Chronological Elections Guide, a vital voter resource, and makes it available for download via the Division Web site. The Chronological Elections Guide sets forth important deadlines for major local, state and federal elections held in New Jersey each year. The guide also includes Congressional and Legislative district maps, a glossary of election terms, and other useful information. The Guide includes sections regarding the school board and non-partisan municipal elections, and an outline of the specific duties of New Jersey's various election officials.



Left to right: SDAG Mamta Patel, Deputy Director; Donna Barber, Senior Management Assistant; Ramón de la Cruz Esq., Director; Gloria Jean Berry, Supervisor of Elections; Coreen Grooms, Administrative Assistant.

❖ **Polling Place Accessibility Workshops/Resource Guide —**

Consistent with its goal of inclusiveness, the Division of Elections annually sponsors Polling Place Accessibility Workshops that bring together hundreds of election officials from every level of government, as well as advocates for the disabled and other interested parties. The sessions provide a forum for learning about, and discussing issues related to, voting access for the disabled. In conjunction with the workshops, the Division publishes a comprehensive Polling Place Accessibility Workshop Resource Guide, and makes it available online. The Division Web site also provides an on-line form that enables New Jerseyans to supply the State with information about problems concerning polling place accessibility. The form can be filled out on-line and submitted electronically.

❖ **Relocation to More Convenient Headquarters —**

To provide candidates and members of the public greater convenience, and to provide the Division with greater space in which to perform its work, the Division relocated in 2004 from its former headquarters at Hughes Justice Complex to new office facilities on South Clinton Avenue in downtown Trenton. The Division offices are now located at Station Plaza, 7th Floor, 44 South Clinton Avenue. The building is a half-block from the Trenton Train Station, a local landmark. It is easily reached via public transportation, and provides more available on-street parking.

❖ **Mock Election —**

On October 28, 2004, the Division of Elections served as host for National Student-Parent Mock Election Day, an international voter awareness event designed to spark heightened interest in the democratic process among students in grades Kindergarten through 12. The National Mock Election Day event is held throughout the United States once every two years. In 2002, New Jersey led the nation with more than 100,000 students casting ballots, a turnout that resulted in the State being cited by the National Association of State Boards of Education for "Outstanding Contribution to Voter Education." As host for Mock Election Day voting in 2004, the Division collected vote tallies from all 50 states, Washington, D.C. and participating American schools located around the world.

